



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/747,713	12/23/2003	Bret Ja Chisholm	120501-1	5883

6147            7590            02/18/2005  
GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY  
GLOBAL RESEARCH  
PATENT DOCKET RM. BLDG. K1-4A59  
NISKAYUNA, NY 12309

EXAMINER

HARLAN, ROBERT D

ART UNIT            PAPER NUMBER

1713

DATE MAILED: 02/18/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



Art Unit: 1713

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

3. Claims 1-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Curatolo, U.S. Patent No. 5,804,301 (hereinafter "Curatolo"). Curatolo teaches a radiation-curable

Art Unit: 1713

coating composition comprising at least one polyfunctional acrylate monomer, at least one reactive vinyl monomer and at least one photoinitiator. See Curatolo, Abstract; col. 2, line 61 through col. 3, line 10. Curatolo further teaches compositions containing two or more polyfunctional acrylate monomers and specific photoinitiators. See Curatolo, col. 8, lines 35-52 and cols. 10-11. The present invention differs from the teachings of Curatolo in that Curatolo does not teach nanoscale filler. Curatolo teaches examples of fillers including silica. See Curatolo, col. 9, lines 31-38.

Interpreting the claims in the broadest light possible, the Examiner contends Curatolo teaches to one of ordinary skill in the art that silica regardless of the size would be useful to teachings of Curatolo concerning curable coating compositions.

#### **Conclusion**

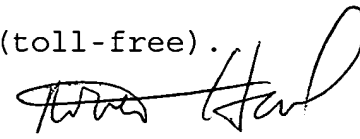
4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert D. Harlan whose telephone number is (571) 272-1102. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, 10 AM - 8 PM.

5. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David W. Wu can be

Art Unit: 1713

reached on (571) 273-1114. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

6. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Robert D. Harlan  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1713

rdh